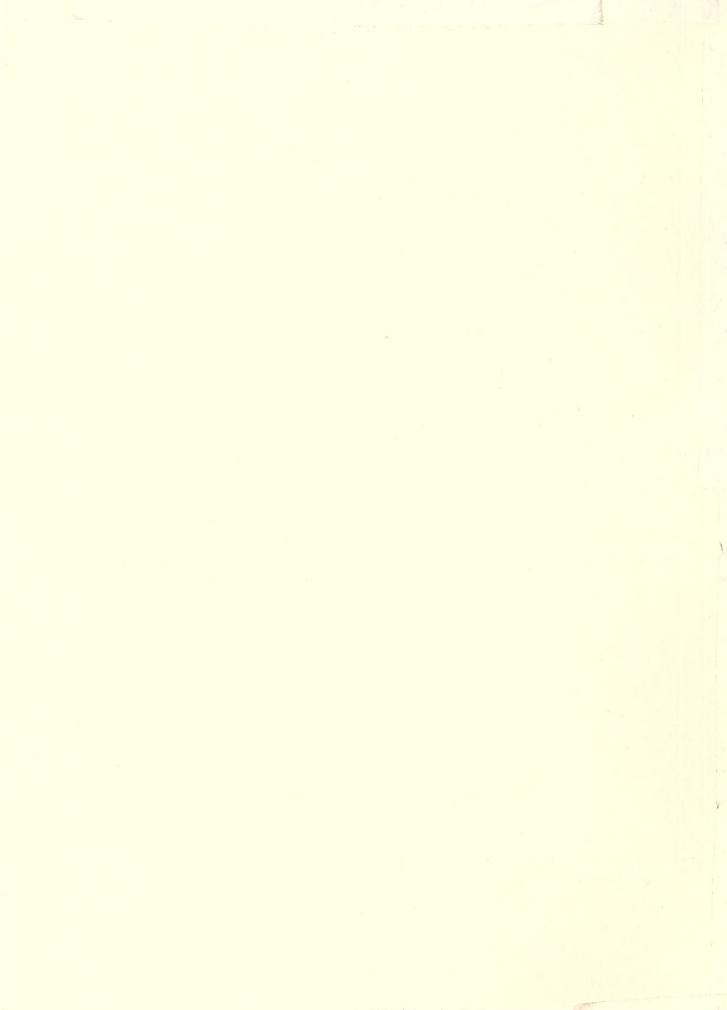
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■ JAN 31 1931 ★ 3. Department of Agriculture. DAHLIA

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER DAHLIA GARDENS

487 HANOVER STREET SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

Alice Meussdorffer

1931

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER DAHILA GARDENS 487 Hanover Street San Francisco California

GENERAL INFORMATION

Order early to prevent disappointment as the demand for some varieties often exceeds the supply.

TERMS: Remittance with order. All retail orders over \$1.00 delivered, postage prepaid, at your planting time unless otherwise requested.



Alice Meussdorffer

WE GUARANTEE—all tubers true to name and in strong growing condition when shipped. Orders are carefully filled from field grown divided roots. We should be notified at once of anything unsatisfactory. We do not substitute unless requested to do so.

We do not guarantee tubers against freezing, if sent before April First.

GREETINGS TO ALL DAHLIA LOVERS

It gives me great pleasure to present my 1931 Catalog this year, not only because it gives me an opportunity of greeting all my dahlia friends, but because I am introducing such marvelous varieties of my Own origination into the Dahlia World. There is no greater joy than to create something really exceptional, and the next greatest joy is to have others enjoy it as well as yourself.

In these pages you will find all of my new varieties, could 1 but paint in the glorious colors for you, that, I have to leave to your imagination from the descriptions given you. I could not enter my new ones in competition this year, as we had an unusually hot spell a whole week until show time; and those I wished to exhibit were too advanced, and others not advanced enough, such is the perversity of the dahlia.

My exhibit, however, was the largest, as usual, and very attractive, judging from the comments one heard on all sides. I received my meed of prizes; one I prized very highly, the First Prize for Best 15 Blooms of one Variety, on my CAROLINE MEUSSDORFFER, the beautiful dahlia named for my dear mother.

I wish to thank my many friends and patrons, for all the testimonial letters received and for their friendly interest in my dahlias. It is a source of pleasure and gratification to me. A satisfied customer is my best advertisement. In soliciting your patronage I wish to earn your confidence by fair dealing. From all who buy my Dahlia Roots, I hear the same thing: "What fine healthy roots you always send us, it is a joy to get such fine stock."



Best wishes for success and pleasure with your dahlias this Season.

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER

NEW INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1931

ALICE MEUSSDORFFER

Front Cover Illustration

This large, refined and exquisitely beautiful informal decorative, has been so universally admired and declared by every one who saw it, to be the most beautiful dahlia they had ever seen, growers, as well as others; so well known a grower as Mrs. Jessie Seal being one of them. At the 1929 Dahlia Show of the Dahlia Society of California, when it was first exhibited, not in competition, I was urged to name it for myself, by a large group who had gathered about the dahlia and had been trying to get an appropriate name for it. The color is a pure, clear, pinkish orchid, without a trace of any other color. There is not another dahlia that has that lovely color. The flowers often measure ten inches and over, and are held perfectly erect on top of a long, straight, wiry stem. I have counted as many as eight large flowers on one bush at one time. The foliage is very attractive, lace-like but leathery, the tall bushes with the masses of blossoms, look like rows of tall chysanthemums; in fact I have been asked if it was crossed with a chrysanthemum, as the foliage resembles it as well. It is one of the latest blooming varieties I have, there are six, large, perfect blossoms, with good centers on one bush today, December 1st. Whenever it was exhibited, every one who passed, stopped, and exclaimed, "Isn't that the most beautiful dahlia you ever saw and such a lovely color." It made me smile as there was not one exception.

Shipping date not before April. Roots only. \$25.00 Net.

GLADYS YOUNG-Decorative Dahlia

Hlustrated on Page 9

This immense, gloriously, beautiful, clear, canary yellow decorative dahlia, of great depth and beautiful formation, is named for one of our sweetest San Francisco singers. The flowers are huge, ten to twelve inches in diameter and six to eight inches in depth, and are held perfectly upright on long, strong, stiff stems, which grow well out of the medium tall bushes. It is a prolific bloomer and attracts universal attention and admiration. When it was judged by some of our leading growers, they could not admire it enough; they thought it was a marvelous dahlia; an outstanding variety, and gave it the conservative rating of 92. It was awarded an honorable mention for the best yellow dahlia. It is a splendid keeper as a cut flower, and has been greatly in demand by fiorists; inquiries are continually coming to me for its name, by people who saw it at florists. April delivery. Roots only. \$25.00 Net.

KAWEAH

Illustrated on Page 13

KAWEAH is named for one of our towering mountain peaks in our High Sierras, from whose summit one of the most beautiful and comprehensive views is had that I have ever seen. Without a question of a doubt, the consensus of opinion of growers, originators, and in fact everyone who saw Kaweah, is that it is the largest and most wonderful dahlia that they had ever seen. As one of our well known originators and growers of only the best dahlias said; "Kaweah has everything, not only immense size, splendid stem, form, substance, but it has glorious color," Its keeping qualities as a cut flower are fine; it has been exhibited for four days, has been handled, smelled by the thousands of people who stopped to admire and to assure themselves that it was real and not artificial; and after all that, I took it home and it kept four days longer. One was sent to the Los Angeles Show, was out of water 18 hours, bumped about on a train for 500 miles, and was exhibited for 2 days there in our exhibit of Northern Dahlias. The color is hard to describe, a deep, clear, rose cerise, center of petals shading to a rich velvety cardinal, toward the center of the flowers; when fully matured the flowers shade lighter toward the tips of the petals, almost mauve or orchid. First flowers have been 13 to 15 inches with great depth, and late in the season the flowers have been 10 to 11 inches; and these tremendous blooms are held perfectly erect on very long, extra strong, stiff stems, 18 to 20 inches to first lateral. They require very little disbudding. Bushes are medium tall and flowers grow well out of bushes to a height of about five feet. Letters are coming from all parts of the United States from people who saw it exhibited in our store. Stock is very limited on account of advance orders, therefore order early, or you will be disappointed. An unsually hot spell the week before our Show prevented my exhibiting Kaweah in competition. Shipping date not before April. Roots only, \$25.00 Net.

STEPHEN MATHER—Decorative Dahlia

Illustration and Description on Page 5



STEPHEN MATHER

This immense decorative of unusual coloring and great strength is named for our beloved, deceased Director of National Parks, a great man, who did so much for this and future generations, in the conservation of our National Parks. The color of this huge dahlia, which easily measures 10 inches and over, is light pinkish cinnamon, shading to congo pink, and center of unopened petals being corinthian red, with reverse of petals tyrian pink, suffusing the entire flower with a warm glow. Ridgeways.) The flowers are held perfectly erect on splendid, long, strong stems, high above a very attractive, lacelike foliage, on a tall-growing bush. April delivery. Roots only. \$15.00 Net,

.75

.50

DECORATIVE DAHLIAS

Double flowers usually full to the center, flat rather than ball-shaped, with broad, flat more or less loosely arranged petals, with tips, broad or rounded.



#	ALICE MEUSSDO	RFFER—Front	cover illi	ustration. (One
	of my finest 19				
	Page 4.	7	-		

* AL KORAN—A large, bright yellow dahlia, deepening to amber, petals wavy	
* AMUN RA—A stunning flower of copper and orange, with scarlet reverse	
* BLACK JACK—A large flower of deepest velvety maroon, almost black\$ 1.00	

CALIFORNIA SUPERBA—Delicate shade of pink, without any blue tone and shades, gradually to a white center.... \$1.00

* CAROLINE MEUSSDORFFER—(One of my finest 1930 In-

troductions.) This immense and exquisitely beautiful decorative of great depth, and beautiful form was one of my First Prize Winners for Best Basket of Dahlias—15 of one Variety, at the 1930 Show of the Dahlia Society of California. It is named for my dear mother. The center petals around the center are creamy yellow, the center and

Alice Meussdorffer of California. It is named for my dear mother. The center and three rows of petals around the center are creamy yellow, the center and reverse of remaining petals is a bronzy salmon pink, or jasper pink, shading to a creamy yellow or primrose yellow edge, suffusing the immense blooms with a warm glow. The stems are very long and strong, holding the 10 inch blossoms well above a tall, strong bush. It is a prolific bloomer, always full of flowers and they hold their centers to the end of the season. Rating 92. Root.

* DAWN—Cream, shading to yellow, suffused with shell pink. Good, stiff stem......\$

* DR. TEVIS—A large bloom of old rose and gold, on good stems.......\$

* ELINOR VANDERVEER—A magnificent rose pink decorative, held erect on long,

* GLADYS YOUNG—Illustrated on Page 9. One of my finest 1931 Introductions. For description see Page 4.

JANE COWL—A 1928 Eastern Novelty that has been a sensation wherever shown. One of the finest prize winning dahlias to date; its great beauty attracting everyone. A massive, deep dahlia with petals curled and twisted. Color, glistening bronzy buff and old gold blending to a deeper shade toward the center of the flower, reverse of petals a pale flesh color giving the flower as a whole a warm glow. A long, strong stem holds the flower erect. \$5.00

Dahlias marked * originated in California



CAROLINE MEUSSDORFFER Winner of First Prize for Best Basket, 15 Dahlas, one Variety

K	ATHLEEN NORRIS—An immense bloom of a true rose pink, later deepening to a mallow pink, but paler in the young central petals. Great bloomer and excellent keeper. Good strong stems
*	KAWEAH—Illustrated on Page 11. (One of my finest 1931 Introductions.) This giant decorative is named for one of our towering mountain peaks in the High Sierras, from whose summit one of the most beautiful and comprehensive views is had that I have ever seen. Without a question of a doubt, the consensus of opinion of growers, originators and in fact everyone who saw Kaweah, is that it is the largest and most wonderful dahlia they had ever seen. Full description on Page 4.
	KITTY DUNLAP—American beauty rose. Splendid stem good keeper
*	MAY DEARBORN SCHWAB—Winner of the Achievement Medal of American Home, awarded for the Best Dahlia of recent California origin at the 1929 Show of the Dahlia Society of California in San Francisco. First Prize for the Best Three Decoratives in the Color Division, First Prize for Best Nine Blooms of one variety. In 1928 it won our President's Special Award on a large basket of these glorious blooms. It is a beautiful decorative of great size and depth, of the new Dahlia Color, according to Ridgeways, Chinese Violet, or bluish purple. When grown in partial shade it is the exact color of blue violets. The blooms are immense, having exceptionally long and tremendously strong stems, holding the large blooms well above the tall, strong and vigorous growing bush. Roots only.
*	MRS. CARL SALBACH—Immense blooms of mauve pink, long strong stems
*	MRS. ELEANOR MARTIN—Large flower, mulberry, suffused gold
M	IILLIONAIRE—Mammoth lavender, shading to white; strong, stiff stems\$.50
*	PRINCESS PAT—Glorious shade of old rose; having long stiff stems
P	PROXIE—A beautiful flower of a deep rich red, tall bush, fine stem
*	QUEEN OF THE GARDEN BEAUTIFUL—An enormous, primrose yellow, long, stiff stems. \$ 2.00
*	REYNOLD—My finest 1930 Introduction.) This is a strikingly beautiful dahlia, with its unusually beautiful coloring. It attracts universal attention and exclamations of admirations wherever exhibited and in the garden. The color is that of a ripe pomegranite, shading from the deep shade to the most delicate. Petals, center, splashed bright carmine or spectrum red, shading to strawberry, each petal is outlined with a creamy yellow, outer petals carmine shading to pink, the color of peach-blossoms; reverse of petals cream. Long, strong stems, holding the large blooms well above the strong growing plant. Size of blossoms average 9 \(\frac{3}{4} \) inches, and have great depth. Winner of Silver Medal of Dahlia Society of California, for Best 3 Year Old Seedling. Rating 94. Roots only
*	RICHELIEU—Deep, velvety red, strong stems. \$3.5
*	ROSA NELL—A large flower of clear bright rose. Excellent stem\$.7
*	SANTA ROSA—A large, beautiful old rose, good stem, good keeper
*	SHUDOWS LAVENDER—An exquisitely beautiful flower of silvery lavender, slightly
	shading to white, having a long, stiff stem, and held high above a lace-like foliage on a tall growing plant
*	SNOW WHITE—One my 1928 Introductions. A very large, pure white, beautiful decorative dahlia of great depth and substance, having long, very strong, and straight stems, holding the immense blooms well above the strong growing bush, splendid cut flower. From Salem, Oregon, "Your dahlia, Snow White, was a beauty, grew over 8 feet tall, and a mass of good sized blossoms on good stems. We fell in love with it."
*	ST. BERNARD—Immense dahlia of a soft creamy white, suffused with pink



GLADYS YOUNG-Marvelous 1931 Introduction

This immense, gloriously beautiful, pure, clear, canary yellow decorative dahlia of great depth and splendid form, measured 11 inches in diameter and 8 inches in depth. It was awarded a prize for the Best Yellow Color. For further description see Page 4.

TEMELPA—One of my 1928 Introductions. A wonderful decorative; color, center of petals, ox-blood red, shading to carmine and corinthian red, with reverse of daphne red; also having flowers tipped white. Stems are straight and strong, flowers growing on top of it like a rose, good keeper as a cut flower or on the bush. It attracts a great deal of attention on account of its unusually beautiful coloring. Medium tall growing bush. \$3.50

TREASURE ISLAND—This dahlia was among the outstanding varieties of 1929.

The coloring is quite different, being a bright apricot with gold and rose suffusion. An exceptionally good grower, producing large flowers on good stems. \$5.00

* THE CHRONICLE—An immense flower of rich velvety red, shading darker toward the center. The blooms are unusually full, and are held well above the foliage on good stout stems. \$1.00

* TRISTAN—One of my 1928 Introductions. An immense, rich, glowing, dark, velvety red decorative, of fine form. The blooms are held perfectly erect on remarkably strong, stiff stems, on very sturdy bushes. A large basket of this beautiful dahlia was one of my prize winners at the 1928 Show, and attracted a great deal of attention. \$3.50

CACTUS DAHLIAS

English and American Types have flowers resembling chrysanthemums. The hybrid type if fully double; the petals are shorter than the English and American types, and are broad, flat and recurved and twisted.

- * BALLET GIRL—English Cactus. Very attractive. Orange splashed and tipped with white. Some flowers will be all orange, some all white, some white circled with orange.
- EDNA FERBER—Hybrid Cactus. One of the finest ever produced. Color, a glistening coral shading to old gold on face of petals. Its immense blossom is held high above the bush, which is of medium growth with exceptionally fine stiff stems. \$3.50

Dahlias marked * originated in California



Dahlia Caroline Meussdorffer



FLAMENCA

* NEW GLORY—Hybrid. A striking, light ox-blood red with tips of petals blazed with white. Petals have a quilled effect near the tips. ______\$ 2.50

PEONY DAHLIAS

Semi-double flowers, showing a bright yellow center and usually have an inner row of petals that are curved and twisted. ALMA DAVIES—Salmon pink shading to old rose and apricot. Strong stem......\$ 1.00 ARIADNE—One of my 1928 Introductions. Beautiful peony of pure gold, good * BRUNHILDE—One of my 1928 Introductions. An immense, striking peony of a deep velvety tyrian rose, shading lighter, toward the tips of petals, and light reverse.

The stem is cane-like, and it is a prolific bloomer. \$2.00 CITY OF PORTLAND—Deep, clear yellow; large blooms, good stems.\$.75 * GLORIOUS—One of my 1928 Introductions. This immense peony of perfect formation, is a golden yellow, splashed brilliant red; first flowers sometimes come cream, with red shading. Good stems and strong growing bush.\$ 1.50 * GORGEOUS—Yellow, shading to bright scarlet. Extra long stems, immense size and MEXICO—An attractive red and yellow peony. Large flowers on good stems.\$ 1.00 MEYERBEER—Dark cardinal with a purplish center and lighter tinting at tips......\$.75 * ORIOLE—Burnt orange, red and yellow, striking flower good stem.....\$.50 SHOW DAHLIAS Old-fashioned flowers, ball-shaped with tightly quilled petals. LES AMOURS DE MADAME—Lovely pink, some have cerise stripes.\$.50 COLLARETTES AND SINGLE DAHLIAS ABBE HUGONARD—Striking purple, white edge, white collar.\$.50 GEANT DE LYON—Large, velvety maroon, with a long, white collar.\$.50 ...\$..50 HERALD—Large, rosy pink, white collar. * DE ETTE—My 1930 Introduction. Immense single. Bronzy yellow, crimson ring, beautiful flower with petals turning backwards. Tall growing plant. \$ 1.00 UNION JACK—American Single. White, striped red.\$.75 POMPON DAHLIAS Pompons are the gems of the dahlia family, producing very small, compact flowers like diminutive show dahlias. They are invaluable for cut flowers, owing to their good keeping qualities. BANTAM—Brownish red, small, perfect form, and very long stems......\$.50 * BOSSY—New 1931. (Lengeman) Bluish lavender, long strong stem, and free flow-ANNIE DONCASTER—Yellow base, deep lavender shadings.\$.35 BLUSH GEM—White ground, edged rosy pink.\$ DEEDEE—A perfectly formed pure lavender.\$.50 Dahlias marked * originated in California



KAWEAH—The Superlative Dahlia Giant 1931 Introduction—Decorative

POMPON DAHLIAS

*ELIZABETH—Golden yellow, edged with brownish red\$.50
GIRLIE—Pure lilac, long stem, good bloomer\$.50
GLOW—Pure old rose, perfect form, very popular\$.50
* HELEN ANITA-Small, lavender, white center; very attractive, long stems\$.50
IDEAL—Pure yellow, very popular for florist work\$.50
JOHNNY-Very dark red, one of the smallest and most perfect\$.50
* LARRY—My 1929 Introduction, beautiful golden amber, cinnamon colored center. Stems are very long and bushes are strong and sturdy, prolific bloomer\$.75
LILIAS or LILAC—Beautiful, cream ground, heavily suffused with pink\$.50
LITTLE BEESWING—Golden Yellow, tipped cherry, fine form\$.50
LITTLE DAVID—One of the best. Burnt orange. Prolific bloomer\$.50
LITTLE DONALD—A very good red, small flowers, with good stems\$.50
* LYDIA—My 1928 Introduction. Delicate pinkish orchid\$.50
MARIETTA—Deep rosy crimson\$.50
NELLIE FRASER—Light ground, edged and tipped with rose	.50
REGULUS (Little Dorrit)—Beautiful cerise purple, small, perfect form. \$ ROSEA—Charming variety of bluish lilac. Small and good. \$	$.50 \\ .50$
* ROSE MARIE—My 1929 Introduction. A new shade in dahlias. A beautiful pompon. It is difficult to give the exact color; bright rosy carmine, with a cream reverse; long, strong stems, and is a prolific bloomer	.75
SUNSET—Clear orange\$.35
* TOM THUMB—Very tiny, bright red, smallest pompon\$.50
TOMMY KEITH—Crimson, tipped white	.50
* YELLOW GEM—Pure yellow, small and fine form.	
ONE DOZEN POMPONS—Listed at 50c\$	5.00

We won the First Prize for the Best Basket of Pompons in CLASS "A" in the Professional Class, in the 1930 Show of the Dahlia Society of California.

DAHLIA COLLECTIONS

I am offering this season special collections, made up of one root each of my most popular varieties; this gives an opportunity of securing a choice collection at a greatly reduced cost. These collections are carefully balanced as to color, and are made up of large dahlias only. There are twelve guaranteed roots in each collection, all labeled, and of varieties that can be found in this catalog. We prepay all postage. These collections are \$5.00, \$10.00, \$15.00 and \$25.00



The Silver Medal of the DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA for Best Three Year Old Seedling awarded on "REYNOLD" in 1928.

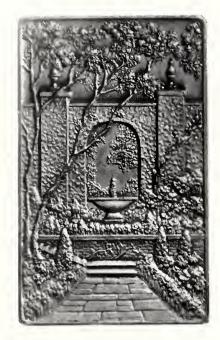


REYNOLD—1930 Introduction
Winner of Silver Medal of the Dahlia Society of California for Best
Three Year Old Seedling at 1928 Show
Description on Page 8



IMPORTANT

Roots Are What We Formerly Termed Tubers



The Achievement Medal awarded us by Doubleday, Doran & Company, publishers of . . .

THE "AMERICAN HOME"

(formerly Garden and Home Builder)

MAY DEARBORN SCHWAB
at the 1929 Show of the
DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

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KAWEAH—13½ inches Giant Decorative—1931 Introduction

Winner of First Prize for Best Dahlia in the 1929 San Mateo Show. "KAWEAH". Giant Decorative, as a two year old.

Member of the

DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

SAN FRANCISCO DAHLIA SOCIETY

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCIAL DAHLIA GROWERS, Inc.



THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Affiliated with the AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

We extend a cordial invitation to all who are interested in dahlias to join THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA. The Dahlia Bulletins that are issued several times a year are full of interesting Dahlia news. Yearly dues, \$2.00.